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CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT, Mayor



OFFICE OF EQUITY AND CIVIL RIGHTS

DANA P. MOORE, Chief Equity Officer and Director  
7 E. Redwood Street, 9th Floor  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

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February 10, 2023

To: Senate Judiciary Committee

Re: Endorsement of SB 400 - Places of Public Accommodation - Places of  
Public Accommodation - Motion Picture Houses – Captioning  
SB 400 - Hearing date: February 16, 2023, at 1:00 pm

Greetings,

The Baltimore City Mayor’s Commission on Disabilities was created as part of the Baltimore City Government in 1993. Since that time, it has reviewed programs and services for people with disabilities, identified barriers to programs and services available to people with disabilities, recommended ways to overcome those barriers, and made recommendations regarding existing and proposed legislation pertaining to people with disabilities.

The Commission strongly supports SB 400 – Open Captioning at Movie Theatres, which Delegate , Delegate Andre V. Johnson, Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson sponsor. This bill ensures that movie theaters provide two days of the week with all the movies being open captioning. Captioning benefits everyone, including deaf people, hard of hearing people, people who are learning English, and also children/adults who are learning to read. In addition, people with late hearing loss benefit from captioning!

We strongly urge you to support and vote to pass SB 400.

Very truly yours,

*Aloma Bouma*

Aloma Bouma, Chair  
The Baltimore City Mayor’s Commission  
on Disabilities